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Turkmenistan Mid-Year Report

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAATM001

31 August 2012

**This report covers the
period 01/Jan/12 to
30/Jun/12.**

*An outreach worker of the Turkmenistan
Red Crescent carries out a mini-session on
HIV and TB with a programme client
/Turkmenistan RC*



Overview

In the first six months of the year 2012 the IFRC supported the Turkmenistan Red Crescent to raise humanitarian standards by participating in the global databank and the organizational capacity assessment and certification (OCAC) process. Besides, the National Society was assisted to strengthen the specific Red Cross Red Crescent contribution to development through programmes addressing HIV and Tuberculosis and community based health and first aid. To heighten Red Cross Red Crescent influence and support for our work IFRC promoted adoption of the National Society law, and worked on closer country integration in Turkmenistan by negotiating IFRC status agreement. IFRC also encouraged National Society mobilization activities through technical support and promoted improvements in financial management. Key achievements for the six months include:

- National Society Databank profile updated;
- Plan of action developed to address deficiencies identified through the self-assessment within the OCAC process;
- A referral voucher system introduced for the first time in two sites of the HIV prevention programme;
- A dialogue between IFRC and the Turkmenistan Ministry of Foreign Affairs on status agreement in the country maintained; the decision is expected from the ministry in August 2012.
- An assessment of financial management systems of the National Society by experts negotiated between the Turkmenistan RC, IFRC and the British RC.

The main factor affecting the implementation of the planned activities was the lack of funds for the disaster management, principles and values and organizational development programmes. Withdrawal of the number of traditional donors that used to channel their programme support multilaterally creates a vacuum and means the National Society has to reduce the scale of programming and look for funds from non-traditional donors and strengthen in-country fundraising.

IFRC encouraged and supported the Turkmenistan Red Crescent in seeking funding from the European Council by responding to the call for proposals on strengthening the capacities of non-state actors. The Turkmenistan National Society, alongside other four National Societies from central Asia, is one of the implementing partners, the Netherlands RC is the applicant and IFRC is an associate partner that will contribute to “bridging” between operating National Societies and partner National Societies. The results of this application are expected to be announced in autumn.

The Red Crescent also participated in the development of the country application for the Global Fund’s grant for Tuberculosis prevention and plans to be one of the implementers of the Global Fund’s second phase as a sub-recipient.

The Turkmenistan Red Crescent held a regular congress in April 2012 that approved a new version of the National Society statutes. The changes to the statutes refer to the work of (collegiate) governing bodies: the presidium was abolished and its functions were devolved to the central council; regional finance commissions were also abolished with their functions inherited by the National Society finance commission.

Following the strategic direction to move the emphasis in the support of the national societies in the region on building their internal technical capacity the structure of the Federation Regional Representation in Almaty has gone through substantial restructuring. A number of regionally based technical support functions have been assigned to the Federation’s Zone office in Budapest and Federation Representation in Tajikistan. The process, whereby the International Federation status agreement in the country will be renewed, has started intensively by opening dialogue with the Turkmenistan Ministry of Foreign Affairs and is expected to have the first results by the end of summer 2012. This will enable the International Federation to ensure closer country integration and provide focused support to the Red Crescent Society in Turkmenistan.

Working in partnership

The list below includes multilateral and bilateral partners of the Turkmenistan Red Crescent that support the National Society programming with funds.

Operational Partners	Agreement/ programme area
Multilateral	
British RC	health and care (TB, HIV, CBHFA)
DFID	organizational development
PSI	health and care (HIV and TB)
Bilateral	
British RC	MOU (organizational development and HR management)
Danish RC	MOU (youth project)
IOM	Project agreement (prevention of human trafficking)
ICRC	Promotion of IHL and humanitarian principles, RFL

Progress towards outputs

Business line 1: To raise humanitarian standards.

Output: 1.2.1 Turkmenistan RC promotes fundamental principles and humanitarian values of the Movement.

Measurement		
Indicators	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
Number of new staff members and volunteers reached with sessions on fundamental principles and humanitarian values	10	See details below.

Comments on progress towards outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was no funding received for the principles and values programme so there were no specific activities implemented toward this output. However, information about fundamental principles and humanitarian values is provided by the Turkmenistan RC to new staff and volunteers as part of the work briefing or relevant training within the specific programme.

Output: 1.4.1 Framework and principles for building strong national societies are promoted to ensure RC uptake and active participation

Measurement		
Indicators	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
NS annually updates the Databank profile including the FWRS (starting in 2012)	Updated on an annual basis	The profile was updated.
NS participates in the Geneva led initiative on the Organisational Capacity Assessment Certification (OCAC) process as a pilot NS in 2011-2012	Continue the OCAC exercise	See details below.

Comments on progress towards outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In February the NRCST held a working meeting that brought together chairpersons and executive directors of regional branches, NRCST chairperson, the headquarters' heads of departments and programme coordinators to present the results of a self-assessment. The self-assessment was conducted in September 2011 within the framework of the OCAC process. As a result of the working meeting the NRCST developed a plan of action for the years 2012–2015 that will help address the areas requiring further development. It is expected that the next phase of the OCAC process – a peer review – will take place after the National Society addresses shortcomings identified during the self-assessment. The peer review is tentatively scheduled for autumn 2012. The National Society updated its Databank profile with data for the year 2011.

Business Line 2: To grow Red Cross Red Crescent services for vulnerable people.

Output: 2.1.1 Turkmenistan RC has increased institutional capacity to support community disaster risk reduction, preparedness and response.

Measurement		
Indicators	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
Trained and equipped DR teams in regional branches by end of 2013	Not applicable	See details below
Prepositioned emergency stocks in regional branches for 1,000 people in total by end of 2014		

Comments on progress towards outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was no funding received for the disaster management programme so there were no specific activities implemented toward this output.

Output: 2.3.1 Turkmenistan RC provides regular update to the disaster management database

Measurement	
Indicators	Year to Date Actual
The database is updated annually	See details below

Comments on progress towards outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was no funding received for the disaster management programme so there were no specific activities implemented toward this output. The Database exists at the National Society level; however updates were not registered in the first half of the year as due to the lack of funds the NS did not implement specific activities with the Disaster management programme.

Output: 2.6.1 Disaster preparedness and response capacities of target communities in the most disaster-prone areas have strengthened through RC DRR activities related to climate change

Measurement	
Indicators	Year to Date Actual
24,000 schoolchildren are reached with messages on safe behaviour annually	See details below
80 LDMC established in target communities over 4 years and have community's DP'/DR plans	
70,000 people reached with mitigation projects over 4 years	

Comments on progress towards outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was no funding received for the disaster management programme so there were no specific activities implemented toward this output. See also output 4.2.1: In the beginning of the year IFRC developed regional and country focused project proposals for the Norwegian and Japanese Red Cross Societies that included various programme areas. The latter was unsuccessful for Turkmenistan but the result of the Norwegian RC application is supposed to be announced later this year.

Output: 2.7.1 Turkmenistan RC has promoted IDRL at the national level

Measurement	
Indicators	Year to Date Actual
A study of national legislation on compliance with IDRL guidelines has been conducted by end of 2013	See details below
Recommendations to the national legislation developed by end of 2014	See details below

Comments on progress towards outcomes

- This activity will be followed up in 2013, but as a precondition the National Society will seek funding for hiring a technical expert in the national legislation who will be responsible for conducting the study in order to provide recommendations. There was no funding received for the disaster management programme so there were no specific activities implemented toward this output.

Business line 3: To strengthen the specific Red Cross Red Crescent contribution to development

Output: 3.1.1 Turkmenistan RC enhances ability of communities to combat discrimination, intolerance and violence and to promote respect for diversity

Measurement	
Indicators	Year to Date Actual
Number of community members reached with messages on non-discrimination, tolerance and non-violence (500,000 in 4 years)	See details below

Comments on progress towards outcomes

- There was no funding received for the principles and values programme so there were no specific activities implemented toward this output.
- However, the National Society drafted a communication strategy for 2012-2016 that also covers the future approach to promotion of the principles and values among partners and wider population. The draft strategy is being discussed with IFRC.

Output: 3.2.1 Turkmenistan RC has scaled up HIV programming by introducing additional services

Measurement	
Indicators	Year to Date Actual
Referral network is created by end of 2012	Referral system is piloted in different sites.
Outreach service is established by mid 2012	Outreach service is provided by 58 trained outreach workers

Comments on progress towards outcomes

- The HIV prevention programme is implemented in Ashgabat, Dashoguz, Mary, Turkmenabat and Turkmenbashi. The programme comprises information and education activities (sessions, trainings, public campaigns) on HIV for schoolchildren, students, troubled adolescents, military people, sex workers (SWs), drug users (DUs), men who have sex with men (MSM), taxi or truck drivers, police personnel and staff of different enterprises. SWs, DUs, truck drivers and MSM are targeted through the outreach work; the adult population is reached through information activities. The National Society has also distributed more than 30,000 condoms received from the National AIDS centre.
- In January 2012, the National Society formalized an agreement with the Ministry of Health and Medical Industry to introduce and adapt a referral voucher system in two cities: Ashgabat and Dashoguz. The ministry assigned city clinics, AIDS centres and TB hospitals in both cities to provide free health services for the Red Crescent clients from risk groups¹. These services include diagnostics and treatment of TB and STIs and HIV testing for these clients. They are also referred to the drop-in centre under the health ministry for psychological, legal assistance and low-threshold services. The National Society outreach workers have been referring clients by using vouchers.
- Beneficiaries from other target groups/ in other sites are also referred by the programme to TB and HIV testing, drop-in centre and the Red Crescent House for social services, but the vouchers are not used in this case.
- The number of outreach workers providing services to target beneficiaries within the programme is 58. They make referrals and often accompany the clients to health facilities for testing on their request.
- The total number of people reached with information, education and communication activities over the period was 12,276. 88 percent of people reached with education were able to describe ways of HIV transmission, myths and misconceptions etc.

Output: 3.2.2 Control the spread of tuberculosis in Turkmenistan and reduce the incidence of tuberculosis

Measurement	
Indicators	Year to Date Actual
Advocacy action plan developed by August 2012	See details below
Unified referral system integrating closer HIV and TB services established over four years	See details below

Comments on progress towards outcomes

- The TB prevention programme is implemented in Ashgabat, Dashoguz and Mary cities. This year it expanded to two new sites – Tejen and Turkmenabat cities. The programme targets most vulnerable people with TB at the outpatient phase of treatment and their families; healthy population is reached in educational institutions and enterprises. Over the period the National Society reached 197,445 people through education sessions and public actions; 85 percent of people covered by education activities knew four main symptoms of TB and prevention measures. Besides, 374 people with TB have been supported in treatment adherence; treatment success rate in these clients made 85 percent.
- The draft advocacy action plan has been disseminated among the National Society branches for consideration and feedback. The plan is expected to be adopted in August 2012.
- There exists a close integration between HIV and TB services of the National Society. The most

¹ Within the USAID Dialogue on HIV and TB Project funded multilaterally by PSI the Turkmenistan Red Crescent targets primarily drug users in Ashgabat and Dashoguz cities.

significant example is the voucher referral system introduced this year in selected sites of the HIV prevention programme (see Output 3.2.1 above). A client who is diagnosed TB is referred to a TB dispensary and after in-patient treatment is supported by the National Society through the ambulatory treatment and receives social support (food parcel) distributed in cooperation with the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. Although the HIV programme refers beneficiaries to TB testing in all programme sites the voucher referral system is not yet applied universally.

- Relevant information about HIV and TB is provided to target beneficiaries through education activities of all National Society health projects (HIV prevention, TB prevention, CBHFA).

Output: 3.3.1 Rural communities have essential knowledge and skills on prevention of communicable diseases and first aid and accept proper attitude to their health

Measurement		
Indicators	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
Comprehensive educational plan for CBHFA trainings and coordination of volunteers created by mid 2012	Plan developed	See details below
Volunteers recruited and received relevant training by end of 2012	2,000	450

Comments on progress towards outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The CBHFA programme is implemented in 11 districts (4 regions) of the country, including the new site that the programme expanded to in February. The programme targets rural population – children, adolescents, women and men of reproductive age – with information and education activities in the area of public health and reproductive health. First-aid trainings are conducted to train the beneficiaries on relevant knowledge and skills. • There was an education plan for volunteers developed that includes training in CBHFA in action, first aid, interpersonal communication, and effective trainer skills. According to the adopted plan 186 volunteers have been trained (for the first time or as a refresher) over the period, among them 18 recruited in 2012. In total, trained 390 volunteer-instructors have been carrying out information and education activities among the population. All volunteers-instructors have been supplied with necessary training materials for their community work. • The number of people reached with education and through public actions made 20,200 people. Among people targeted through education 86 percent know basic symptoms of the most common diseases and prevention measures and practise hygiene rules, while 39 percent master basic first aid skills • The target for the indicator “Volunteers recruited and received relevant training by end of 2012” has been changed. Volunteer turnover is an issue in the youth group because schoolchildren often quit volunteering after finishing school. Consequently, the National Society has to recruit and train new volunteer-instructors so as to be able to implement the planned activities in the communities. The average number of volunteers from all target groups actively supporting the programme throughout a year is about 450 and includes new and experienced volunteers. However, annually the National Society recruits and trains up to 65 new volunteers, mostly from youth. Consequently, the annual target will be 65 and the indicator will specify these are new volunteers.

Output: 3.5.1 Strengthened regional and local branches of the National Society

Measurement	
Indicators	Year to Date Actual
RR continues branch development in 2012-13	See details below

Comments on progress towards outcomes

- There were no activities implemented towards this output in the first half of the year. However based on bilateral support from British Red Cross the National Society will implement a project that will result in strengthened branches.

Output: 3.5.2 Volunteer capacity improved through relevant training and participation in core activities

Measurement	
Indicators	Year to Date Actual
RR continues support to volunteer development by promoting Online Learning Platform and Knowledge Sharing networking	See details below

Comments on progress towards outcomes

- National Society chairperson was briefed about the online Learning Platform and Knowledge Sharing network initiative. As a result, the National Society considers issuing an internal memorandum for staff and volunteers to offer recognised opportunities to develop themselves through the Learning Platform.
- An electronic database of volunteers was created by the National Society in the headquarters that includes Red Crescent volunteers supporting the programming at the branch and at the headquarters level. Currently the database lists 2,493 volunteers with their personal data, contact details, and the training they received from the National Society.
- Over the period 30 information dissemination and charity events have been conducted by the National Society with support from 1,764 young volunteers. Among them are: campaigns on the Red Cross Red Crescent Day and the Victory Day in the capital city and regional centres; and an event on occasion of the World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development. The latter event included volunteer presentations about the culture, traditions, and customs of different ethnic groups. Volunteers also held games that showed the negative effects of stereotype thinking or attitude.

Business Line 4: To heighten Red Cross Red Crescent influence and support for our work**Output:** 4.2.1 Increased National Society's sustainability

Measurement	
Indicators	Year to Date Actual
RR continues promoting and encouraging NS resource mobilization activities internally and externally through technical and intellectual support	See details below.

Comments on progress towards outcomes

- In the beginning of the year IFRC developed regional and country focused project proposals for the Norwegian and Japanese Red Cross Societies that included various programme areas. The latter was

unsuccessful for Turkmenistan but the result of the Norwegian RC application is supposed to be announced later this year.

- The Turkmenistan RC, alongside other four National Societies from central Asia, became part of the application in response to the European Commission's call for proposals on Strengthening the Capacities of Non-State Actors. The specific objective of the proposed action is "To strengthen capacities of the RCRC Network in Central Asia in promoting the improvement of national and regional legal frameworks and advancing a multi-stakeholder dialogue for provision of quality social services to vulnerable groups through conducting effective advocacy, awareness raising and resource mobilisation." The timeframe is two years. The results of the application are expected in autumn 2012.
- The Netherlands Red Cross is the applicant and the IFRC as an associate partner that will contribute to "bridging" between operating National Societies and partner National Societies (coordination of the network activities, strategies, initiatives, policies); providing technical expertise (trainings on humanitarian diplomacy, resource mobilisation, volunteer management) and assisting the network members in connecting to local and national government networks (lobbying for relevant legislation, promoting auxiliary role, advocating for human rights of the most vulnerable groups).
- The National Society leadership was encouraged to take a proactive approach to strategic partnerships development. Thus, the Red Crescent engaged in communication with National Societies that are non-traditional donors for the region like National Societies from the Middle East countries or Asia-Pacific region. Official visits that will facilitate partnership development with target National Societies are also planned.
- The Turkmenistan Red Crescent has been negotiating joint bilateral programmes with the American and Netherlands Red Cross Societies and UNICEF. Thus, the American RC will support a project aimed at earthquake preparedness in Ashgabat from July 2012. UNICEF will also cooperate with the Turkmenistan Red Crescent in the area of disaster management. The support from the Netherlands RC will be focused on the National Society capacity building; the project is preliminary scheduled for October.
- For information about National Society initiatives facilitating local fundraising please see Output 4.5.1.

Output: 4.2.2 Red Crescent Law has been adopted

Measurement	
Indicators	Year to Date Actual
RC law ratified by end of 2013	See details below

Comments on progress towards outcomes

- The NRCST is a member of the Inter-agency commission on implementation of international obligations of Turkmenistan in the sphere of human rights and international law. At the regular meeting of this commission in May the draft Red Crescent law was discussed, among other issues. The draft included amendments and additions made on the recommendations of the Joint Statutes Commission. The draft law was approved by the members of the commission and was forwarded to the Cabinet of Ministers for consideration. The draft law has also been forwarded to the parliament. The Red Crescent expects that the law will be adopted by the end of the year; following the adoption a plan of its implementation will be produced.

Output: 4.3.1 Closer country integration with Turkmenistan RC is ensured

Measurement	
Indicators	Year to Date Actual
IFRC status agreement signed with the government over 4 years	See details below.

Comments on progress towards outcomes

- The Regional Representation has systematically engaged in a dialogue with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the IFRC status agreement. Extensive communication maintained with the ministry's protocol and legal departments aimed at negotiating the status agreement, promoting the Red Cross Red Crescent programmes in the country and the auxiliary role of the National Society. Formal relationship has also been established between the Regional Representation and the Consulate of Turkmenistan in Almaty (Kazakhstan). The application and supporting documents have been presented to the President's administration and received a general welcome. The state authorities also received comments from the Turkmenistan Red Crescent on the matter. The decision is expected from the foreign ministry in August 2012. The Turkmenistan RC is ready to host country representative even before the status agreement is formalized.

Output: 4.5.1 A systematic approach is taken for representation and advocacy with NS key agreed partners

Measurement	
Indicators	Year to Date Actual
New partnerships are promoted and encouraged by RR over four years	See details below
1 new partnership established by 2014	

Comments on progress towards outcomes

- An extension of the project on HIV and TB prevention among at risk groups in Turkmenistan has been negotiated between IFRC and PSI until March 2013.
- In June the NRCST arranged an open day in the headquarters to seek new and strengthen existing partnerships. The event included a charity fair of handcrafts made by staff and volunteers, lotteries, a photo exhibition on the history and activities of the NRCST, video presentations named "The History of the Idea" and "The Fundamental Principles", as well as distribution of informational materials among visitors. More than 50 people attended the event. The Ministry of Textile Industry demonstrated their interest in the Red Crescent programming and currently opportunities of cooperation are considered.
- In March the National Society participated in an international exhibition, devoted to the 20th anniversary of the country's UN membership held at the Ministry of Internal Affairs. More than 150 participants of the international conference, that the exhibition was part of, had an opportunity to learn about the activities of NRCST, ICRC and the Movement. All international organizations working in Turkmenistan were among the participants and received information about the National Society programming.

Business Line 5: To deepen our tradition of togetherness through joint working and accountability

Output: 5.1.1 Promote National Society participation in regional and international dialogue and cooperation

Measurement	
Indicators	Year to Date Actual
NS attends regional Leadership, Russian-speaking fora, European Conferences, GAs and IC	See details below.

Comments on progress towards outcomes

- There has been none of the meetings listed in the indicator held during the reporting period.

Output: 5.4.1. Accountability system has been developed in the NS

Measurement	
Indicators	Year to Date Actual
The system is in place by 2014	See details below.
RR continues support to raise accountability standards through modernization of internal processes, financial systems and PMER over four years	See details below.

Comments on progress towards outcomes

- In March the NRCST organized a working meeting to discuss the National Society accountability to beneficiaries. As a result, the Red Crescent developed a draft pack of documents – a concept on accountability to beneficiaries and an instruction on work with beneficiaries for staff and volunteers – that was disseminated among NRCST staff for discussion. The documents will be presented to the central council (governing body) for approval in the third quarter. Following the approval the National Society will arrange meetings with staff and volunteers in the headquarters and branches to disseminate ideas and ensure understanding among staff and volunteers.
- In view of recent staff changes in the Regional Representation the Turkmenistan Red Crescent was encouraged to show a higher level of self-determination in terms of financial and narrative reporting on programmes. A briefing was arranged for head of health department and finance manager of the National Society related to future management of the health programmes supported multilaterally in Turkmenistan that will imply bigger responsibilities on the National Society.
- The following target (indicator) for this objective, “The system is in place by 2014,” was found immeasurable and will be excluded from the LTPF.

Output: 5.5.1 NS has effective and transparent human resources management systems

Measurement	
Indicators	Year to Date Actual
RR provides tailored support in HR development	See details below

Comments on progress towards outcomes

- There were no activities carried out towards this output in the first half of the year.

Output: 5.5.2 Proper and effective financial management in the NS

Measurement	
Indicators	Year to Date Actual
RR provides tailored support in finance management	See details below.

Comments on progress towards outcomes

- An assessment of financial management systems of the National Society by experts is currently negotiated between the Turkmenistan RC, IFRC and the British RC. The external audit is impossible to arrange as there are no international audit companies working in the country. The assessment results will be used to improve the systems with the view of introduction of a cash transfer to the National Society.

Stakeholder participation and feedback

The Turkmenistan Red Crescent has bi-lateral plans of action signed with the Ministry of Health and Medical Industry on joint activities in the area of diseases prevention (HIV, infectious diseases), drug abuse prevention, and first aid education for 2012. The Red Crescent is also a member of the National working group on coordination of partners working in the field of TB prevention that is headed by WHO country office. As a member of the interagency coordination committee, the Turkmenistan Red Crescent Society has a role in monitoring and evaluation of the National Programme on HIV Control for the years 2012-2016 that was approved by the Turkmenistan's Cabinet in April 2012. The National Society has been cooperating with the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Defence, the State Service on Fight against Illegal Drug Trade, the AIDS centre, the health information centre, school administrations, local authorities, youth and women's unions and agencies like OSCE, UNODC, UNAIDS and US Embassy in Turkmenistan.

Between January-March 2012 the National Society conducted a survey of knowledge, attitude and behaviour risks of SWs and DUs so as to better understand beneficiaries' needs and to increase the effectiveness and impact of the HIV prevention programme for these target groups. Monitoring visits to the health programme sites have also been carried out jointly with beneficiaries, representatives of local authorities and volunteers. Joint monitoring helps build trust, supports transparency, accessibility, and accountability of the Turkmenistan Red Crescent Society, and demonstrates the purpose of its activities. Over the period 18 monitoring visits took place that involved 26 beneficiaries. The National Society has also been using success stories as a monitoring tool within the HIV prevention programme (USAID Dialogue on HIV and TB Project). The stories about beneficiaries indicate that they and their close ones appreciate the services they receive from the Red Crescent Society.

Key Risks or Positive Factors

Key Risks or Positive Factors	Priority High Medium Low	Recommended Action
Reorganization processes in the Regional Representation meaning new systems of programme management support are being established. This affects proper supervision of the programmes.	H	It is expected that the source of technical support to health programmes currently implemented in Turkmenistan will be clarified in August 2012. New arrangements should be in place in September.
Turnover of volunteers from youth in CBHFA.	M	The programme will recruit and train volunteers of older age group (young people who have families and steady revenue in target sites).

Financial situation

Click here to go directly to the financial report.

[http://www.ifrc.org/docs/LTPF Process/LTPF/2012/SP570TMLTPF_12myrf.pdf](http://www.ifrc.org/docs/LTPF%20Process/LTPF/2012/SP570TMLTPF_12myrf.pdf)

How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations \(NGO's\)](#) in Disaster Relief and the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

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The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of nonviolence and peace.

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Contact information

For further information specifically related to this report, please contact:

- **In the Turkmenistan Red Crescent Society:** Shemshat Amanova, Chairperson, email: crescentinf@online.tm; phone: +99312 93 17 50; and fax: +99312 93 43 49
- **In the IFRC Europe Zone office:** Evgeni Parfenov, Head of Operations; email: evgeni.parfenov@ifrc.org; phone: +36 1 8884 502; fax: +36 1 336 15 16.